GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2220
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
SMUGGLING OF WILD ANIMALS .
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a large number of turtles and other animals are being smuggled to Singapore and other countries;

(b) if so, the details in this regard for the last three years and current year as well; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) & (b) Cases of seizures made by the enforcement agencies from time to time indicate that illegal trade across the international boundary in wild animals, their parts and products by organised mafias does occur. The details of important seizures made during the last three years and current year is given at Annexure.

(c) Hunting of wild animals and trading in wild life products is banned under the provisions of Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. The steps taken for effective implementation of the Act are as under:

(1) Steps taken at the State level:

(i) State level and District level coordination committees have been set up in several States to prevent poaching and illegal trade in wildlife.

(ii) State wild life Authorities carry out regular checking of the stocks of dealers of animal products and birds.

(2) Steps taken at National level

(i) Government of India has set up Regional and Sub-regional Offices for wildlife preservation in major export and trade centres of the country to prevent smuggling of wild animals and their products.

(ii) Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has been empowered under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 to apprehend and prosecute wildlife offenders. Anti poaching/trading efforts are being coordinated with INTERPOL.

(iii) Export of wild animals and their derivatives is prohibited under EXIM policy.

(3) Steps taken at International level.

Government of India is a signatory to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES for control of illegal trade in wildlife items.

ANNEXURE

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2220 29.7.2002 REGARDING SMUGGLING OF WILD ANIMALS

Details of important seizures of wild animals, wild animal products and birds during last three years and current year as reported by Wild Life Regional offices of Ministry of Environment & Forests at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata & Chennai.

Sl.No	Species	1999	2000	2001	2002
1	Tiger	3(skin)	4(skin), 132(claws)	-	-

2	Leopard	50(skins)	150 (skins), 18000(claws)	- -
3	Star tortoises	-	- 600	1011
4	Snake skin and articles	47	2000	20 -
5	Monitor lizard skin	11001	3	- -
6	Butterflies	1.97 Kgs	-	1600
7	Otter Skin	-	101	- -
8	Mongoose hair	4.5 Kgs.		1000 kgs
9	Rose ringed parakeet	25	73	3
10	Alexandrine parakeet	-	300	35
11	Blossom headed parakeet	4	17	-
12	Hill Myna	-	350	-
13	Pheasant	-	-	6
14	Red Munia	-	-	1200
15	Peregrine falcons	-	12	- -
16	Assorted Munia	125	-	-
17	Sea Cucumbers	-	-	- 25 Kgs
18	Molluscs & Corals	-	-	- 3,00,000 pcs. of Trochus and Turbo species, 2500 kgs of Tubipora musica and 143 gunny bags of banned marine products
19	Green finch & black headed munia	-	8300	-
20	Alexandrine parakeet, Rose ringed parakeet, Blossom headed parakeet, Black headed Munia, White Breasted Munia, Finches, Baya birds & Hill Myna	-	-	1000